30th January 1929]

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I know from the hon. Minister whether, in view of the policy of encouraging patients to come for treatment in the early stages of the disease, what arrangement Government have made to bring the patients from their homes to the asylums ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" Notice, Sir."

Enquiry into the causes of the death of coolies in the Law College Sewage Pumping Station.

*1188 Q.—Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether any enquiry or investigation had been held into the causes of the death of five coolies at the Law College Sewage Pumping Station ; and

(b) if so, whether he will be pleased to lay on the Council table the report submitted, if any, by the Director of Public Health and the Sanitary Engineer to Government on the causes of the tragedy and of the measures resolved to be adopted to prevent the recurrence of similar accidents and deaths ?

A.—(a) Yes. Enquiry has been made.

(b) The reports received from the Sanitary Engineer and the Director of Public Health are under consideration. The question of publishing them will be considered when orders are passed.

Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar :—" May I know, Sir, with reference to (b), when the report was received ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" About a month ago."

Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar :—" May I know when orders are expected to be passed on the report ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" I cannot possibly say, Sir."

Report of Captain Srinivasamurti.

*1189 Q.—Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether, as stated in the answer to question No. 595 answered on 12th October 1928, the Government have considered the recommendations made in the report of Captain Srinivasamurti ;

(b) what are the conclusions arrived at by the Government ; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to place Mr. Srinivasamurti's report or at least his recommendations on the table of this House ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The recommendations made in the report are still under consideration.

Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao :—" May I know, Sir, when the recommendations of Capt. Srinivasamurti were received ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" About four months ago."

Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao :—" How long will it take for the Government to come to any conclusion on them ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" Not very long."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Arising out of the answer to clause (c) of the question, may I know whether the report has been placed on the table of the House and, if not, why ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" They have not been placed yet on the table. Such of the recommendations as are accepted or rejected and the orders will be placed before the House."

Anti-drink propaganda by the Public Health officers.

*1190 Q —Mr. S Satyamurti : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether, in view of the statement of the Excise Commissioner in the Excise Administration Report for 1927–28 that officers of the Public Health department will preach the evils of *excessive* drinking, the Government have issued orders directing them to preach against all drinking ;

(b) if so, the date on which such order was issued and the terms of the order ; and

(c) if not, why not ?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government think that the hon. Member is referring to the statement of the Excise Commissioner about the order issued on 11th May 1927 to officers of the Health Department about the evils of drink. The Government are considering about further instructions to be issued.

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" May I know if this is the order now in force in the department, that the officers of the Public Health Department will preach the evils of excessive drink ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" That was the order passed on 11th May 1927. A change of order is now under consideration, as I have already said."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" May I know if that is the order now in force ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" The answer says that a change of order is under consideration."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" May I know, Sir, whether, apart from that fresh order, this order of 11th May 1927 is in force ? It might have been repealed or modified ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" That order has not been repealed or modified by a subsequent order."

Mr. S Satyamurti :—" May I know, in view of the policy of my hon. Friend, the Minister, that Government intend carrying on propaganda *inter alia* with the help of the officers of the department against drink whether the Government propose to issue instructions asking these health officers to point out the evils of drinking whether moderate or excessive, and if so, when they propose to issue such orders ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" It has been under the consideration of Government for the last four months."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" May I know when approximately the Government propose to issue orders ? "